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MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

PEE DEE

COLORED BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

Laurinburg Church, Richmond County, N. C.,

October 5th, 6th 7th and 8th, 1882.

RALEIGH, N. C.:
"BAPTIST STANDARD" PRINT.
1883.

Ordained Ministers.

S. W. Dockery.....Lilesville, N. C.
R. Covington.....Rockingham "
L. B. Mason..... " "
A. Covington.....Rockingham, N. C.
E. V. Reade.....Cheraw, S. C.
D. Cambel.....Laurinburg, N. C.
H. McIntire.....Shoe Heel, "
M. C. McMillan..... " "
H. C. Chambris.....Capel's Mills, "

LICENSED MINISTERS.

A. Dockery.....Rockingham, N. C.
W. M. Mason..... " "
Frank Covington..... " "
Washington Monroe.....Laurinburg, "
Green Monroe..... " "
S. T. Johnson..... " "
J. S. Redick..... " "
Moses Monroe..... " "

PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY—Morning Session.

The Association met at 11 o'clock, and was called to order by Rev. S. W. Dockery.

Rev. E. Baldwin preached the Introductory sermon. Text, Matt. 2: 2—"Where is he that is born King of the Jews, for we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." The sermon made a lasting impression on all present.

Song—hymn 584.

Prayer by Rev. Peter Graves.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, p. m.

Benediction by Rev. S. W. Dockery.

Afternoon Session.

The Moderator being absent, the Association was called to order by Rev. S. W. Dockery.

Song—hymn 126.

Prayer by Bro. E. V. Reade.

List of Churches was called.

The Association went into the election of officers, as follows: Rev. E. V. Reade was elected Moderator; Rev. S. W. Dockery, Secretary; and Calvin Watkins, Treasurer.

Letters from the Churches were called for, and the names of delegates enrolled, as follows:

Lilesville—Rev. S. W. Dockery, Peter Siles and Arthur Siles.

Solomon Creek—W. M. Elerbee, J. F. Brow and John McRay.

Rockingham—W. H. Woodard.

Saron Church—Rev. E. Baldwin, A. Hines and Terral Crouch.

Holly Grove—Rev. A. Covington, Simon Elerbee and John Elerbee.

Bethlehem—Rev. E. V. Reade and James McRay.

Spring Branch—R. S. Livingston, Green Monroe and A. W. Monroe.

Nashville—Norman Woodard, John Woodard and James Monroe.

Buffalo Spring—Robert McBride, E. Andrews and Robert Graham.

Belford—Not represented.

Laurinburg—H. Rines, A. Johnson and D. C. Cambel.

On motion, Centre Grove Church, organized by Rev. S. W. Dockery and Peter Graves, was received; delegate—Duncan McNeal.

The visiting brethren were invited to seats, and Rev. Peter Graves, from the Eastern Association, came forward; also, Prof. N. W. Harlee, from the Zion Baptist Church, and gave a brief account of the work in his Church and bid us God speed. He gave $1 for the work.

A vote of thanks was tendered the visiting brethren.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed on Religious Exercises, consisting of Brethren John Woodard, Peter Siles, H. Brimer, A. Hines and R. S. Livingston, who reported as follows:

Meet at 9:30 o'clock a. m., and adjourn at 12 m; meet at 1:30 p. m., and adjourn at pleasure. Preaching each night at 8 o'clock during the Association, and a public collection be taken at the close of each sermon. Preaching to-night by Rev. S. W. Dockery. To-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, preaching by Rev. A. V. Reade.

The Association then adjourned.

Prayer by Bro. McMillan.

Benediction by the Moderator.

Night.

At 8 o'clock a large congregation assembled. After singing, Rev. S. W. Dockery preached from Rom. 1: 16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." The speaker dwelt largely on the power of God, through which He exerts His saving power on all who believe and obey it. The gospel, he said, was first preached to the Jews, but when they refused to accept it, it was then sent to the Gentiles. The sermon made a good impression on all.

Prayer by Bro. L. Branch.

A collection was taken up, amounting to $1.78.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session.

At 9 o'clock a. m. a large congregation assembled.

Rev. E. V. Reade preached from James, 4th chap., 8th verse: "Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you." The sermon was well gotten up.

The Association was then called to order by the Moderator, the roll called, and the minutes read and adopted.

The visiting brethren were invited to seats.

On motion of W. M. Elerbee, a committee of three was appointed on Finance, as follows: Brethren W. M. Elerbee, A. Covington and A. Johnson.

On motion, the Association adjourned to 2:30 o'clock p. m. Sung hymn 234.

Prayer by Rev. S. W. Dockery.

Benediction by the Moderator.

Afternoon Session.

The hour having arrived, the house was called to order by the Moderator. Sung hymn 745.

Prayer by Norman Woodard.

The Moderator declared the house ready for business.

On motion of Rev. S. W. Dockery, one hour was spent in discussing Church and Associational duties before the body.

On motion of W. M. Elerbee, the house agreed that S. W. Dockery should lead off, occupying 25 minutes of the time. After speaking 25 minutes, the house seemed to be so aroused by the power of his effort, his time was prolonged ten minutes. He was followed by Rev. A. Covington and several others.

A resolution was then offered by Rev. A. Covington:

Whereas, there are so many children in the bounds of the Association destitute of the right kind of Sunday school books, be it

Resolved, that this Association purchase a Sunday school library.

It was adopted.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

We, your committee, have received from the different churches $22.89 up to the present.

W. M. Elerbee,
A. Covington,
A. Johnson,
Committee.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported preaching to-night by Rev. A. Covington at 8 o'clock.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. S. W. Dockery. Benediction by the Moderator.

NIGHT.

A large congregation assembled. Rev. A. Covington preached from 1 John iv. 7, "Beloved, let us love one another." Sung hymn 126, and then took a collection amounting to $6.00. Prayer by A. Johnson.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

At 10 o'clock a. m., the house was called to order by the Moderator. Sung hymn 835. Prayer by Rev. M. C. McMillan.

The roll was then called, and the Moderator declared the house ready for business.

On motion of W. M. Elerbee, the minutes of the second day were read and adopted.

Visiting brethren were then invited to seats, whereupon H. H. McNeil, A. D. Davis, T. W. Shaw and Thos. Smith came forward from the Crane Creek Association and took part in the deliberations.

A speech of five minutes was then made by Elder P. Graves on Foreign Missions.

A resolution was then offered by R. S. Livingston:

WHEREAS, the Pee Dee Association is small and weak, be it

Resolved, that a missionary be appointed by this body to labor this Associational year in destitute places to constitute and bring more churches into the Association.

It was adopted.

On motion of John Woodard, Rev. A. Covington was appointed as said missionary, and this Association agreed to give him $150.

Adjourned to 1:30 o'clock. Prayer by the Moderator. Benediction by Elder S. W. Dockery.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The hour having arrived, the house was called to order by the Moderator.

After singing hymn 872 and prayer by Elder S. W. Dockery, the Moderator declared the house ready for business.

On motion of A. Covington, the minutes of the forenoon session were read and adopted.

The following resolution was offered by W. H. Woodard:

WHEREAS, it has pleased Almighty God to call from our ranks our beloved Brother, Alexander Dockery, a faithful member of Holly Grove church for 15 years, aged 41 years, who departed this life May 10th, 1882.

Be it resolved, that his name be kept sacred in our memories, and that our prayers ascend to a throne of grace in behalf of his bereaved family.

Adopted and ordered to be printed in the minutes.

Elder A. D. Cohen, from the white church at Laurinburg, being invited to a seat with us, came forward and took part in the deliberations. He was requested to preach the missionary sermon on Sunday, but having to preach at his own church at 11 o'clock, he begged to be excused.

On motion, S. W. Dockery was appointed to preach the missionary sermon.

On motion, the Association agreed to have 700 copies of the minutes printed, and Elder S. W. Dockery to superintend the printing and distribution; and it was agreed to allow him $6.00 for his services as Clerk, and the Moderator $2.25.

On motion, the Association paid Elder R. Covington $12.00 for preaching at Rockingham church.

A vote of thanks was then tendered to the friends and church of Laurinburg for their kind hospitality.

The Association then adjourned to meet with Holly Grove church, Richmond county, Thursday before the 2nd Lord's day in October, 1883, at 10 o'clock a. m.

Rev. M. C. McMillan was appointed to preach the introductory sermon, Elder G. B. Mason to preach the missionary sermon, Elder S. W. Dockery the educational sermon.

Persons appointed to write: On Temperance, W. M. Elerbee; On Sunday School Work, Elder A. Covington; on Ministerial Education, S. W. Dockery; on Christian Duty, Elder R. Covington; on Ministerial Support, R. S. Livingston; on Training Children, G. B. Mason; on General Intelligence, J. W. McLauchlin.

Closed by singing hymn 1151. Prayer by the Moderator. Benediction by Elder S. W. Dockery.

SABBATH.

On Sunday morning a large congregation assembled, and the missionary sermon was preached by S. W. Dockery from Prov. 30: 15, "The horseleach hath two daughters, crying, Give, give. There are three things that are never satisfied." Sung hymn 998, and took a collection amounting to $14.10. Prayer by Elder E. V. Reade.

Elder A. Covington preached at the same hour at the Methodist church from Mark 16: 15. He had a large and attentive congregation.

After a recess of one hour for dinner, which was abundant and elegantly prepared by the sisters and friends of the community, a sermon was preached by Elder E. V. Reade from Matt. 28: 19, 20. Sung 991, "Watchman, tell us of the night," &c. Prayer by Rev. M. C. McMillan, after which a collection was taken to the amount of $11.10. Benediction by Elder A. D. Cohen.

At night Elder E. Baldwin preached from Joel 2: 2, "A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness." Sung hymn 435, after which a collection to the amount of $6.25 was taken up. Benediction by the Moderator.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CHURCHES.

Lilesville,	$ 3 50
Holly Grove,	3 14
Saron,	3 00
Rockingham,	1 00
Spring Branch,	6 00
Nashville,	2 50
Buffaloe,	1 25
Bethlehem,	1 50
Laurinburg,	1 00
Collected during the Association,	49 43
Total,	$72 32

The treasurer was ordered to pay out of the treasury to Laurinburg church $18.00 towards their building, and $5 00 to Foreign Missions.

W. H. Woodard was appointed delegate to the State Convention. The Association agreed to give him $12 for his expenses, and five dollars and a half sent to represent the Association in the Convention.

The following are the names of the churches, pastors and post offices:

Lilesville—Pastor, Rev. S. W. Dockery; post office, Lilesville, N. C.; No. of members, 63; Church Clerk, Dennis Tilman, Rockingham, N. C.

Rockingham—Pastor Rev. A. Covington; post office, Rockingham, N. C.; No. of members, 11.

Saron—Pastor, Rev. G. B. Mason, Rockingham, N. C.; No. of members, 182; Clerk, Anthony Hines, Capel's Mills, N. C.

Holly Grove—Pastor, Rev. G. B. Mason, Rockingham, N. C.; No. of members, 165; Clerk, Pinkney Green, Rockingham, N. C.

Spring Branch—Pastor, Rev. S. W. Dockery; No. of members, 275; Clerk, R. S. Livingston, Mount Pelure, N. C.

Solomon Creek—Pastor, Rev. S. W. Dockery, Lilesville, N. C.; No. of members, 36; Clerk, J. F. Brower, Laurinburg, N. C.

D. Camble—Pastor, Rev. E. V. Reade, Cheraw, S. C.; No. of members, 42; Clerk, H. Brower.

Bethlehem—Pastor, Rev. E. V. Reade, Cheraw, S. C.; No. of members, 71; Clerk, H. McLain, Laurinburg, N. C.

Nashville—Pastor, Rev. Peter Graves, Lawsonville, N. C.

Buffalo Spring—Pastor, Rev. C. McMillan, Shoe Heel, N. C.; No. of members, 32.

Center Grove—Pastor, Rev. M. C. McMillan; No. of members, 16; Clerk, Duncan McNeil, Shoe Heel, N. C.

The following persons were appointed to write on subjects for the next meeting of the Association:

"The duty of the Church"—Rev. E. V. Reade.

"The Pastor's Duty to the Church"—Rev. D. Cambel.

"The Duty of the Members to the Pastor"—Rev. E. Baldwin.

"Music"—Miss Rachel A. Dockery.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. I. This body shall be denominated and known as the Pee Pee Colored Baptist Association.

ART. II. The object of this Association shall be the promotion of Christ's kingdom among men, and the means of accomplishing this object shall be in strict accordance with the New Testament.

ART. III. This Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the churches connected with it, each church being entitled to three delegates. Ministers who are members of the churches connected with this body shall be considered members of the Association.

ART. IV. The delegates from each church shall bear a letter certifying their appointment and giving an account of all funds contributed for benevolent purposes during the year.

ART. V. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer, chosen annually by ballot. A plurality of votes shall constitute an election, and they shall continue in office until their successors are elected.

ART. VI. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside during the deliberations of the body, enforce and observe the Constitution, preserve decorum, appoint committees, decide all questions of order, give his opinion on subjects under discussion after others have spoken, or when called upon, and give the casting vote in case of a tie.

ART. VII. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to record the proceedings of each annual session and superintend the printing of the minutes and their distribution to the churches.

ART. VIII. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds sent up by the churches or collected during the sessions of this body, and disburse the same as ordered by the Association. He shall also make an annual report of the condition of the treasury at each session of the Association.

ART. IX. Any church desiring to become a member of this body shall present her petition at an annual session through delegates, and if the Association consents to receive her, the Moderator shall extend to the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

ART. X. The Association shall not maintain fellowship with any church that neglects to preserve gospel order.

ART. XI. The Association may invite visiting brethren to seats and extend to them all the privileges of the body, save that of voting.

ART XII. The annual session of this body shall be held at such time and place as will be considered most expedient.

ART. XIII. By the appointment of the Association, there shall be preached during each annual session the Introductory and Missionary sermons.

ART. XIV. This Constitution may be amended at any annual session by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Approved and adopted on Saturday, September 10th, 1870, at Cartledge's Creek, Richmond county, N. C.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Moderator shall fill the chair and preserve decorum in the Association; of him punctuality, gravity and vigilance are particularly required. He shall open and close the Association by prayer, or call upon some brother to perform this service. He shall appoint committees with the sanction of the Association, explain questions, administer reproof, and decide between contending claims. He should never speak in debate except on important questions, and then not until he has given others a fair opportunity to give their views; and he shall appoint some other member to the chair. He may require motions to be presented in written form whenever he may deem it necessary.

II. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the members and the proceedings of the body, and discharge such other duties as the Association may direct.

III. The members of the Association shall observe that respect towards the officers and each other which becometh those who reverence that Great Being whose cause they should all labor to support. All invective should be carefully avoided by members while speaking, and those who are not speaking should refrain from all indecorous conduct as is calculated to throw odium on the speaker, or to interrupt his chain of thought or good feeling, or in any way disturb the peace of the Association. No member may withdraw without permission from the Moderator, nor speak on any one question longer than six minutes at a time without permission from the house. "Let all things be done decently and in order."—1 Cor., 14th chap., 40th verse.

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